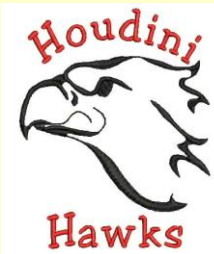


Houdini Hawks Tale

LITERACY EDITION

OCTOBER 13, 2011



TIFFANY FRERKS, PRINCIPAL

DONNA HODGES, ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

Visit www.aasd.k12.wi.us/houdini
for the REST of the newsletter!

For **details** regarding events listed below, please check the calendar on our website.

UPCOMING KEY DATES

Oct. 14-19 MAPS Testing
Oct. 14 – Reading Minutes Due
Oct. 14 – Gr. 4 Field Trip
Oct. 17 – 4:00-6:15 p.m. Parent/
Teacher Conferences & Book Fair
Oct. 18 – 4:00-6:15 p.m. Parent/
Teacher Conferences & Book Fair
Oct. 19 – 11:30 a.m. Gr. 6 Chorus
Oct. 20 – 4:00-6:15 p.m. Parent/
Teacher Conferences & Book Fair
Oct. 21 – 11:27 Dismissal –
NO PM SCHOOL
Oct. 24 – 8:45 a.m. Peer Mediation
Training
Oct. 25 – Arbitrary Friday – Follow
Friday Schedule
Oct. 25 – 11:30 a.m. Gr. 5 Chorus
Oct. 26 – 11:27 Dismissal –
NO PM SCHOOL
Oct. 27-28 **NO SCHOOL**
Oct. 31 – 7:45 a.m. Gr. 5/6 Intramurals
Nov. 1 – School Picture Retakes

Battle of the Books is designed to promote a love of reading among our students. It encourages students to read a variety of books and remember information about the plots, characters, and settings of the books. If your 4th-6th grade student is interested in participating, have them sign up in their homeroom. If you have questions, please contact Mr. Carpenter.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

The main purpose of a parent-teacher conference is to help your child do well. Preparation on the part of both parents and teachers helps to make conference time pleasant and productive. Time seems to fly during a conference, so you may want to write your questions and concerns down on a piece of paper to take with you. Your notes and questions may help to remind you of important items you wanted to discuss with your child's teacher and keep the central focus of the conference on how to best meet your child's needs. Here are some good questions to ask:

- What are my child's strengths and challenges?
- What can I do to build on my child's strengths or help him/her in areas that are challenging?
- What community resources are available to help my child in reading?
- How can I build motivation and structure time for reading at home?
- What are some books, authors, or series of books that other children at my child's age or reading level typically enjoy?
- What can be done at home to reinforce what my child is learning at school?
- How can I coach my child if he/she gets stuck on a word?

If you are facing challenges with your child, discuss this with the teacher or school counselor.

Most children have the same teacher for only a year. However, parents are life-long teachers of their children. Parents who are better informed and involved in the education of their children are better equipped to be that life-long teacher.

Email Communications From School:

Are you getting more than one electronic copy of newsletters, etc? That's because our system sends one email for each child at Houdini. We're very sorry for this inconvenience, but unfortunately it cannot be helped. Please contact us if you get more than that.

Literacy Corner



What do Common Core State Standards (CCSS) Mean to Parents?

CCSS:

- ✓ is an educational initiative
- ✓ supported by the National PTA
- ✓ developed in 2009
- ✓ were created by teachers, parents, education experts, and others from across the country
- ✓ give consistent expectations for what students should be learning at each grade in order to be prepared for college and career.
- ✓ standards have been adopted by 48 states including Wisconsin.

The National Parent Teacher Association will be releasing guides on the CCSS for parents. There are 11 guides in all. These guides will include four key components:

- ✓ Key items that children should be learning in English and math in each grade;
- ✓ Activities that parents can do at home to support their child's learning;
- ✓ Ways parents can build stronger relationships with their child's teacher; and
- ✓ Tips for planning for college and career (high school guides only).

For more information on these "Guides," please go online to PTA.org/parentsguide

Appleton Reading Specialists



Book Look Nook

Some great Read-Aloud Books:

Beginning Readers (grades K-2):

Book to You! By Lois Ehlert. The use of rhyming text and photos of colorful collage art using fall objects give readers a reason to view each page carefully. The mice cleverly scared the black cat away from their harvest meal.

Firefighter Ted by Andrea Beaty. With a spark of good humor, this book is a perfect match for fire safety lessons. Ted's innocent childhood antics and imagination put him in the hero role and will leave his audience totally speechless.

Young Readers (grades 3-4):

Backpack Stories by Kevin O'Malley. A comic book format attracts children to these four adventure stories about backpacks. A variety of graphic art styles give the history of backpacks and tell of a science fair, a superhero, and a backpack that comes to life.

The Book That Eats People by John Perry. Warnings begin on page 1 and continue to the last page; Never turn your back on this book. In between are the gory details of what happened to those who failed to heed these warnings!

Advanced Readers (grades 5-6):

Animals by Miranda Smith. The reader is given a view of the world of animals, through topics such as attack and defense, finding food, storage and digestion, avoiding predators, life cycles, and much more. An informative glossary is included.

Astronomy: Out of this World by Simon Basher and Dan Green. This book pairs nonfiction text with anime-style characters, providing students with an up-close, personal look at the universe. The characters help students make connections to astronomy – from the basics of the moon and sun to the wonders of distant galaxies.

READING ROCKS!!!

2011



2012

Attention All Houdini Families! Houdini is about to launch its Reading Rocks program for the 2011-2012 school year on Tuesday, November 1st. I'd like to encourage you to consider this 30 minute reading opportunity that will be available Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 7:45 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. in the LGI. All those who are interested, please fill out the section below and return to school by Friday, October 21st.

Mr. Martin, Advisor

Reading Rocks!!!

Name of Child: _____ Grade: _____

Name of Child: _____ Grade: _____

Name of Child: _____ Grade: _____

Name of Child: _____ Grade: _____

Parent Signature: _____

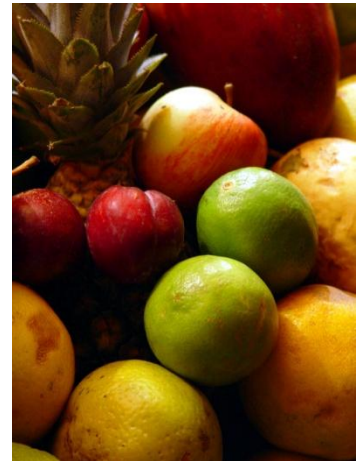
SNACK POLICY

Each day students have the opportunity to have a **healthy** snack while they complete schoolwork. Please remember this is a short snack time, so plan accordingly.

The decision on what to send as a snack rests with the parents, so your help in promoting the message of healthy eating is appreciated. Some suggestions are:

Healthy Snack Ideas:

- Fresh or dried fruit, Apple Wedges
- Pretzels
- Plain Trail Mix, Gorp
- Cheese
- Crackers
- Rice Cakes
- Raw vegetables
- Granola Bars (Watch fat content)
- Juice Boxes (100% Juice), Water
- Yogurt
- Fat Free Popcorn
- Nuts
- Beef Jerky (95% fat free)
- Unsweetened cereal



Houdini Birthday/Celebration Policy: Birthday treats (food) are no longer allowed due to the district-wide Healthy Kids Initiative, as well as concern for our many students who have food allergies. We encourage you to have your child's birthday celebration at home instead of at school. If, however, you are interested in making your child's day special at school, please consider donating a class gift such as a new game, puzzle, book, or send a pencil for each child.



Part-Time Job Opportunity

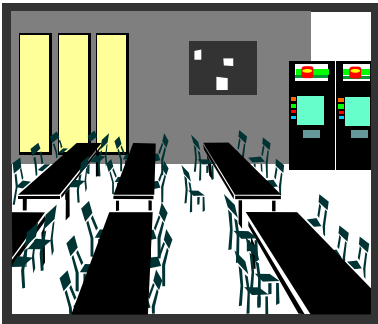
Please share with family, friends and neighbors

When: Monday - Friday

Time: 11:05 a.m. - 12:35 p.m.



Job Duties Include:



Set up lunch tables, wash and take down lunch tables, supervise students in the lunch room as well as out on the playground.

Benefits: Spending time with our
Wonderful Houdini Students!

Rate of Pay: \$8.25/hour

If Interested: Stop by the school office to fill out an application, or call 832-4608 for further information.



OCTOBER 2011
3-5 Year Old Developmental Screenings
"The Other Check-Up"



Think about the developmental screening as "The Other Check-up".

"The Other Check-Up" looks at all areas of child development including:

How your child talks
How your child listens
How your child thinks
How your child moves
How your child uses his/her hands

The Appleton Area School District is interested in screening ALL children between the ages of 3-5 who are not enrolled in kindergarten. Parents and Guardians do not need to have any concerns. We love to see typically developing children!

Where:

McKinley Elementary School, 1125 E. Taft Ave.
McKinley Elementary School, 1125 E. Taft Ave.
Appleton Public Library, 225 N. Oneida St.
Appleton Public Library, 225 N. Oneida St.
Edison Elementary School, 412 N. Meade St.
Franklin Elementary School, 2212 N. Jarchow St.
Berry Elementary School, 3601 S. Telulah Ave.

When:

Monday, October 3: 12:00pm - 2:00pm
Wednesday, October 5: 12:00pm - 2:00pm
Saturday, October 8: 9:30am - 2:00pm
Wednesday, October 12: 9:30am - 2:00pm
Friday, October 14: 9:00am - 2:00pm
Wednesday, October 19: 9:00am - 2:00pm
Tuesday, October 25: 9:00am - 2:00pm

To Schedule An Appointment
Please call Carin Tijan at 997-1399, extension 2112

HOUDINI HAWKS ~ CLOTHING ORDER FORM

ORDER DEADLINE: October 31

Description	Sizes Available	Sale Price	Quantity	Size	Circle Color choice	Cost
Hooded Sweatshirt Screen Print Front Optional-Name embroidered on Hood	Youth Medium, Large	\$24.00			Gray	
	Adult S, M, L, XL, XXL	\$28.00			Red	
	Name: _____	Name-\$2.00 extra			Black	
Short-Sleeve T-Shirt Screen printed Unisex sizes	Youth Medium, Large	\$10.00			Red	
	Adult S, M, L, XL, XXL	\$10.00			Black	
Long-Sleeve T-Shirt Screen printed Unisex sizes	Youth Medium, Large	\$15.00			Red	
	Adult S, M, L, XL, XXL	\$15.00			Black	
Polartec Full Zip Fleece Vest CH960 (Chestnut Hill)	Adult XS-4XL	\$38.00			Cherry/Black Black/Stainless Steel	
Polartec Fleece Jacket Full Zipper CH950 (Chestnut Hill)	Adult XS-4XL	43.00			Cherry/Black Black/Stainless Steel	
Tie Die short-sleeve T-Shirt Screen printed	Youth Medium, Large Adult S-XXL	\$15.00			Red, black and white	
SWOOPS short sleeve T-Shirt	Youth Medium, Large Adult – S,M,L,XL	\$15.00			Black w/red and white	

Please note: Youth sizes run quite small. Please order 1 size larger than normal, or consider an adult small for larger children. ***If your purchase is for a gift, we will call you to pick up.*** Checks should be made payable to **Houdini School**. Sample sizes will be available for viewing in the office during conferences. Orders may be dropped off at that time as well, or sent to school with your student.

Child's name _____ **Gift:** ___ Yes ___ No

Phone _____ **Teacher** _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED:

\$ _____

For office use only:

Check # _____ Cash _____ Amount Received \$ _____

Date Received _____ By: _____